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SENATE RESOLUTION 102
By Ford J

A RESOLUTION To honor and commend Reverend G. L.
McCollins, Sr. and the members of the Wilson
Chapel A. M. E. Church.

WHEREAS, The Tennessee General Assembly is proud to specially honor and
commend churches with a long record of service to God and their respective communities; and

WHEREAS, The Wilson Chapel A. M. E. Church has richly blessed the Memphis area
since the church's humble beginning during the period following the Civil War; and

WHEREAS, A white gentleman, whose name is unknown, gave a building on the
Southwest corner of Horn Lake Road at Holmes Avenue, to provide a place for African
American citizens to worship; and

WHEREAS, The church, then called Plunkett Chapel A. M. E., had as its first pastor,
Reverend Plunkett, who was a former slave of the man who donated the building; and

WHEREAS, After Phillip Wilson, Sr. gave the church its present site, it moved there and
a frame building was constructed; and

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WHEREAS, It was later discovered that the church did not have a deed to this property; Reverend S. W. G. Wilson, Phillip Wilson's son, and his supportive wife, Lizzie R. Wilson, generously gave the church connection deeds and much needed additional property at the site; and

WHEREAS, Under the guidance of the Reverend J. J. Cooperwood, the church grew and began an important building program; under the successful pastorate of Reverend S. W. Houston, the church moved and temporarily met in the basement of the new building; and

WHEREAS, It was also under the pastorate of Reverend Houston and under the presiding Eldership of the Reverend P.W. DeLyles that the church's name was officially changed; and

WHEREAS, The basement was completed with the assistance of Reverend Jones M. Williams and was dedicated by Bishop E. L. Hickman; and

WHEREAS, The present church building was completed under the Reverend C. L. Boyd and it was dedicated by Bishop H. Thomas Primm; and

WHEREAS, Under the excellent pastorate of the Reverend William L. Smith, Wilson Chapel was blessed with new carpet, new pews and church furniture; and

WHEREAS, Under the present dynamic leadership of the Reverend G. L. McCollins, the church has continued to be a shining beacon of light to those in need and has extended its vibrant ministry with five busses, a Learning Center, reconstruction of the church's outer appearance and new office equipment; and

WHEREAS, Future plans include the building of a community-oriented Family Life Center, which will include classrooms, a weight room, an indoor pool and a gym; and

WHEREAS, The presiding Elders, who have served the church admirably, include the Reverends W. A. Lewis, J. W. Pickett, C. H. Shelto, J. W. Hall, E. W. Pruitt, P. W. DeLyles, W. L. Powell, and their present and beloved presiding Elder F. G. Garrett and their present and beloved Elder J. C. Miller; and

WHEREAS, The other pastors of Wilson Chapel, each of whom has effectively advanced the Word and Message of God and has done a fine job of preaching and uplifting the lives of the members of their congregation are: the Reverends Winson D. A. Modley, Jesse Thompson, E. E. Crenshaw, Edward Chalmers, W. G. Sanders, D. C. Bernard, J. Hunter, J. W. Thompson, J. A. Wright, C. Ashurt, H. R. Reynolds, J. Haywood, O. T. Hooks, Theo Crumby, Charles Daniels, and Curtis Byrd; and

WHEREAS, The members of the Wilson Chapel A.M.E. Church who will long be admired and saluted for their stalwart Christianity include: David and Maggie Chalmers, Roscoe and Lea Crawley, Alestia Crawley Bryant, and Alestria Crawley Crawford, Reverend Hernandos Chamberlain, London Chalmers, Daniel Webster, William Hall, Chaity White, Leia Chamberlain, Lizzi Wilson, Sammie Wilson James, Walter Chalmers and Leola Chalmers; and

WHEREAS, It is appropriate that we pause in our deliberations to honor this great church and the numerous accomplishments of its pastors and congregation; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor and commend Reverend G. L. McCollins and the members of the Wilson Chapel A. M. E. Church and wish them much continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.